

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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SALT LAKE CITY, - DEC. 10, 1939.

PREVENTION BETTER THAN CURE.

According to a report issued by the Provident Savings Life Assurance Society, New York, over 600,000 human lives are needlessly sacrificed in the United States every year. That is to say, over forty per cent of the annual death rate is chargeable to disease which could be avoided, or postponed, by the application of reasonable preventive measures. It is estimated that about 3,000,000 persons are constantly ill in this country, more than half of whom would be well if proper preventives were applied in time.

Attention is called to the fact that, notwithstanding all modern improvements in sanitary conditions and the advance of the medical science, about two persons die now where one died thirty years ago from preventable or posturable diseases of the heart, arteries, kidneys and brain. The mortality rate from consumption has decreased, it is said 49 per cent, since 1880, while the death rate from heart, arteries, and kidney trouble, has increased, in some localities, over a hundred per cent. What has caused this astonishing and wholly disproportionate increase? Medical treatment and hygienic living have prolonged a number of lives, too weak to withstand the attacks of the diseases of middle life. This may account for part of the increased death rate, but as the report states:

"The natural conclusion is that the abnormal increase in the death-rate from the early wearing out of these vital organs is due to excesses in eating, drinking, working, playing—in short, immoderate living, and the strenuous life."

Here is a suggestion that should not go unheeded. A word to the wise is enough. Temperance in eating and drinking, and everything, regularity in habits, and, we may add, cheerfulness and contentment are the great aids to longevity. Together they form that elixir of life which so many have sought in vain. Happy they who learn in time to drink from the fountain of temperance and virtue!

But the report contains a practical suggestion which deserves consideration. It says the state should enlarge its health department work and carry on a continuous campaign of education for the prevention of disease; and it should give free medical examination, periodically, to any who may desire it, for the purpose of detecting disease in time to check or cure it.

IN THE MIDST OF PLENTY.

The President's message to Congress closed with the assurance that the country is enjoying a high degree of prosperity. This was also set forth in the report of the Department of Agriculture, in the figures showing the yield of the soil in the country. The total value of agricultural products for the year is said to reach the enormous sum of \$8,760,000,000.

It is shown in the report that in the last ten years the products of the farms and open lands have almost doubled in quantity and value. Eleven years ago the Agricultural Department reported a total of \$4,417,000,000 in its annual statement. In the intervening year it is estimated that the surface of this country has yielded an equivalent of \$7,000,000,000.

Prosperity is shown in the figures presented, and there is no immediate reason for fearing that it will not be lasting. The only question that arises is, why does the cost of living rise with the increase of the production of things to eat and wear? Various causes have been suggested. It has been argued that the population increases faster than the production of the necessities of life, and it has been said that the increase in the gold output has cheapened money. But whatever the cause is, the fact remains. And the country today is threatened by a railroad strike that would be a national calamity, because wage-earners are unable to make both ends meet, in spite of high wages and an abundance of food. There is something wrong somewhere, when no remedy can be found for such conditions.

PUT DOWN MOB RULE.

It is undoubtedly true, as pointed out in the message of President Taft to Congress, that the law's delay is responsible for some of the violence that takes the form of lynchings. By giving justice swifter wings some of the outrages of mobs might be prevented. But all cases of lynching cannot, unfortunately, be charged to the tardiness of justice. Many of them are but the fruits of brutality and that contempt of law and authority that is becoming more and more general. It is a reversion to the savage instinct of the cannibal and the head hunter.

Only a short time ago a negro was burned at the stake in Georgia. He was driving a mule team and an automobilist came up behind him and frightened his animals and probably began firing at the darkey. The lat-

ter returned the fire and wounded the automobilist.

What must be thought of a civilization under which a human being can be consigned to the flames for an offense of that kind, without trial and without any regard for the provocation? And what will the consequences of such law-breaking be? If it is true that the harvest is according to the seed sown, a time for trouble will surely come. The negroes are advancing. They are learning the rights and privileges of American citizenship. They are becoming wealthy, and there are millions of them. Will they forever submit to such mob rule?

It seems to us that the lynching problem is one of the most serious before the country at present. If the states cannot, or will not, solve it by punishing the lynchers as they deserve, because officials are cowards who think more of their votes than of their duties, Congress should give the Federal government authority to step in. We send ships to Nicaragua to terrify a foreign government because of the killing of a couple of American citizens without trial. Why should a Georgia mob be permitted to kill a citizen without trial? If American citizens are entitled to protection abroad, they are certainly entitled to as much protection at home, leaving the question of state rights entirely out of consideration. Mob rule must be put down, or liberty itself will become a thing of the past.

GREELY FOR COOK.

In view of the fact that Dr. Cook's report is now in the hands of experts, it is interesting to notice that Gen. Greely does not hesitate to accept Cook's claim in advance of the final verdict. In his last edition of Handbook of Polar Discoveries he says, as quoted by the Springfield Republican:

"Phenomenal as was the success of Cook and unsurpassed as were the final marches of Peary, the writer, from his personal knowledge of the Smith sound environment, and of both explorers, finds himself constrained to give full credit to their reports, though Cook's are bitterly contested."

This does not detract from the merits of Peary. Gen. Greely says: "To R. E. Peary, more than to any other man, is due credit for the discovery of the pole." And again: "In this great journey to the pole, Peary exhibited high qualities as Arctic expert, as administrator, and as sledgeman. He surpassed the speed record of all predecessors—traveling 5 per cent faster than Cook." There is glory enough for both. Gen. Greely, in 1881, was placed in command of an expedition to establish one of a chain of 13 circum-polar stations. He reached a latitude of 83 degrees, 24 minutes, the highest on record at that time. He discovered land north of Greenland and crossed Grinnell land to the Polar sea. Unfortunately the largest part of that expedition perished, the relief expeditions having failed to locate the explorers. Greely, however, is an authority on Arctic questions and his endorsement of Cook at this time is significant.

A KING IN DISGUISE.

Ever since Czar Peter, the great, worked as a common laborer in the docks of Holland, in order to learn how to build ships, there has perhaps not been an instance of a monarch laying aside the royal insignia and donning the simple duds of a workman until the other day, when King Gustave of Sweden joined the stevedores and performed an honest day's work for the purpose of learning the conditions under which laborers live. Monarchs have led troops in battle and performed works of heroism in the view of armies, but very seldom have they taken any active part in the industrial battles for life in which so many lives are sacrificed. King Gustave has done this.

For some time Sweden has suffered from a strike that has caused general stagnation of business. In a country with a paternal government the king is naturally looked up to as an arbiter of such differences. But in order to perform this duty he must know the full truth. King Gustave, it seems, had reason to suspect that the reports which were permitted to reach him were not entirely reliable, and so he decided to find out for himself whatever he could, by mingling with the laborers. This course seems entirely wise and consistent, and if his majesty continues his personal investigations he cannot but learn many things of benefit to him, as the father of his country.

King Oscar, his distinguished father, was a very popular monarch because he kept in close touch with the people. Charles XV, his uncle, was also popular because he mingled with the people, and understood them. King Gustave makes no mistake if he studies the needs of his subjects and stands up for the interests of the working classes. For they are, after all, the strength of the crown.

Uncle Sam has not demanded the resignation of Zelaya. It is Estrada who has.

What the cows and dairies of the state need is a clean bill of health. It is not hard to be had.

A Colorado sheriff says that he knows where Belle Gunness is. But he doesn't "have to tell."

The switchmen's strike at the Twin Cities is at a standstill. This results from the railroads being tied up.

The opinion is beginning to obtain ground that maybe Zelaya is not so black as he is painted, black as he is.

What was wanted in the Astor case was something like what the public is getting in the Brokaw divorce case.

This story that there are asphalt beds at the bottom of Great Salt Lake will have to be taken with a great deal of salt.

Devil's Lake, North Dakota, was the coldest place in the United States yesterday. His lake has always been supposed to be a lake of fire.

The committee appointed by the University of Copenhagen to examine the

birth polar records of Dr. Cook will begin its work this week. The doctor is sure near purg now.

The home of the Nicaraguan legation in Washington is for rent. This is not to be wondered at when it is remembered that Nicaragua herself is rent asunder.

Secretary of the Treasury MacVeagh says that there has been a change of front on the tariff question by the Republican party. People haven't noticed the change.

To induce workmen to leave the Panama canal zone is a misdemeanor, but it is a meritorious act to induce them to go there. This rule works both ways but not in the same way.

A disposition to look on the favorable side of life is worth more than an income of ten thousand pounds a year, said Hume. But what of him who has neither the disposition nor the ten thousand pounds?

In the great war that is to be waged against the short weight butter sellers it is not believed that the casualties will be many, if any. Not infrequently the stories of such wars are nothing but the airing of hot air.

Underweighing and cheating the government out of duty is no new

NEW NEWS OF YESTERDAY

JAMES R. KEENE'S LITTLE TOKEN OF GRATITUDE.

By E. J. Edwards.
This daily series of anecdotes and incidents that throw new, interesting and frequently dramatic light on famous events and personalities of the past have been collected by Edwards during nearly forty years of more or less intimate acquaintance with many of the country's leaders since the Civil War. Each anecdote or incident is fresh from Mr. Edwards' notebook, and either in whole or in part, it is new to the readers of the New News of Yesterday, gathered from the men who made the news—the history—or from equally authoritative sources. As important contributions of the "Human Interest" sort to American history, these articles have a distinctive value all their own.

The late Samuel Ward, by marriage a member of the Astor family, uncle of the late F. Marion Crawford, and the inspiration which led Crawford to write his first novel, "Mr. Isaacs," was a man of the world in the best sense of the term. Probably no other man in the United States in his day numbered among his personal friends so many distinguished men of affairs, political and business.

One result of this extensive and confidential acquaintanceship was that Mr. Ward had many exciting and truly sensational experiences from time to time; but what he declared to me was his strangest, most unexpected and happiest experience befell him one day when he was with his wife in New York. He was seriously near brain fever, and he had no companions except those whose society he found in that isolation and at once took entire charge of him, watching over him, looking after his business matters, and in the one of the uptown hotels of New York. He was seriously near brain fever, and he had no companions except those whose society he found in that isolation and at once took entire charge of him, watching over him, looking after his business matters, and in the one of the uptown hotels of New York.

It became my duty to go to Long Branch, to obtain from Mr. Keene for publication his views upon business and money conditions. Still in bed and well supported by pillows, he spent some five hours dictating and then revising his statement. Mr. Ward meanwhile passing in and out of the room many times. He was to go to New York on the following day, and he was revising his statement for Mr. Keene. As he was leaving the room

country couldn't do something for me.—Washington Star.
Bobbis—Saphedde is always talking about his point of view.
Slobbs—Yes, but unfortunately, it isn't sharp enough to penetrate anything.—Philadelphia Record.

HAS BEEN WORSE.

New York Tribune.
Those who reproach the civil service system because a few of its selections in the customs service have gone wrong would do well to remember what the condition of the customs service was a generation ago, before the merit system was introduced.

GOOD IDEA.

New York World.
It is hardly less important that the mine operators should bear the small cost of expert direction in accidents than that the government should maintain its elaborate marine life-saving service. Along the sea coast and the great lakes, in addition to the warning lighthouses, we have a system provided with costly boats, cables, mortars, rockets, marine glasses and horses, which saves many lives each year. On stormy days and nights guards patrol dangerous coasts. There are starling salaries, and an exceptional heroism there are medals.

HUMOR ACCORDING TO SPIGOT.

Cleveland Leader.
As a matter of fact, humor is humor. American humor cannot be more humorous than English humor, nor than French, German, Japanese. It is merely the sense of humor that differs in individuals and in races. Humor is like music—some have an ear for it, and appreciation of it, others are tone-deaf or merely dull.

JUST FOR FUN.

"Do you have social relations with their family?"
"No; purely business—we exchange Christmas presents."—Life.

"Pa, what is a braggart?"
"He's a man, my son, who is not afraid to express his real opinion of himself."—Boston Transcript.

"We never realize how little we are understood by our friends until we contemplate the presents they give us at Christmas."—Puck.

"They say that a mummy just arrived in New York is that of the cook of Rameses."

"That so? Well somebody had the secret of keeping a cook," and the suburbanite sighed wistfully.—Philadelphia Ledger.

"What led you to go into politics?"
"Two reasons," answered Senator Sorghum. "I wanted to see whether I couldn't do something for my country. And I also wanted to see whether my

art, according to testimony in the sugar fraud cases. Certainly not. There is nothing new under the sun when it comes to defrauding the government.

The interstate commerce commission holds that conference rates are not an undue discrimination against Order. Of course they are not. In fact they are a benefit to the Junction City as they enable the good people of that place to come here and see how the State capital grows.

An investigator for the labor department of the London board of trade, now in Chicago, says he cannot understand how it is that in England bread, made of American wheat, only costs a third of what it does in Chicago. He does not understand it because he cannot understand that cheap bread makes a cheap man.

One evening recently Mr. Carlquist, the real estate dealer, making his way homeward on a west side street car, became engaged in conversation with a saloon keeper whose place of business is located on West Temple street. The saloon keeper began telling of the "rotten" moral conditions existing in Salt Lake City. Mr. Carlquist afterward remarked that when conditions are such that they elicit the derogatory comment even of a saloon keeper, they must be pretty bad, indeed.

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FOR HER:

- Evening Coats, Elegant Cut Glass, Dinner Sets, Chocolate Sets, Silverware, Bracelets, Brooches, Finger Rings, Diamonds, Hat Pins, Necklaces, Necklaces, Beads, Handbags, Fancy Collarettes, Lace Waists, Silk Kimonos, White Shawls, Newport.

FOR THE BOYS AND GIRLS:

- Handkerchiefs, Skates, Neckwear, Suspenders, Pocket Knives, Brooches, Cans, Umbrellas, Watches, Watch Fobs, Scarf Pins, Finger Rings, Cuff Links, Bracelets, Brooches, Coral Beads, Hat Pins, Pearl Beads, Purses, Holiday Hose, Flexible Toys, Mechanical Toys, Reading Books, Games, Wagons, Railway Trains, Racers, Doll Furniture.



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